


IN THE CLAIMS:

1 Claim ~~8~~ (currently amended) A composition comprising a bitter tastant selected from the group comprising foods and beverages, and a bitterness inhibitor, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.

2 Claim ~~13~~ (currently amended) A composition comprising a bitter tastant selected from the group comprising foods and beverages, and a bitterness inhibitor, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is a purine or pyrimidine group, or derivative thereof, and ionizable phosphate or other anionic organic molecule and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.


 3 Claim ~~21~~ (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste of a food or beverage in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate.

4 Claim ~~26~~ (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste of a food or beverage in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is a purine or pyrimidine group, or derivative thereof, and ionizable phosphate or other anionic organic molecule.

5 Claim ~~27~~ (currently amended) A composition consisting essentially of a bitter tastant selected from the group comprising foods and beverages, and a bitterness inhibitor, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.

6 Claim ~~28~~ (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste of a food or beverage in a subject, said method consisting essentially of administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor in a composition which consisting essentially of a bitter tastant and bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate.

7 Claim ~~29~~ (currently amended) A method of inhibiting the perception of a bitter taste of a food or beverage in a subject consisting essentially of administering to the subject an effective amount of a bitterness inhibitor in a composition which consists essentially of a bitter tastant and bitterness inhibitor wherein said inhibitor is a purine or pyrimidine group, or derivative thereof, and ionizable phosphate or other anionic organic molecule.

 Claim ~~30~~ (new) The composition of Claim ~~8~~¹, wherein said bitter tastant consists essentially of a bitter food, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.

9 Claim ~~31~~ (new) The composition of Claim ~~8~~¹, wherein said bitter tastant consists essentially of a bitter beverage, wherein said bitterness inhibitor is uridine 5'-monophosphate and the inhibitor is present at a concentration which inhibits bitterness.

